

Netley Abbey Junior School

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18th May 2020

Dear Parents,

As many of you will be aware, the government have recently announced their plans to open schools for more of the 'Key Worker' families from 1st June. Their next priority for us as a junior school, would be to look at provision for our Year 6 children as early as we can. As I am sure you will appreciate since this announcement, there are a number of questions and concerns around safety for all of our children and staff.

Our Cluster Approach

We have chosen to take a united approach with our cluster schools in Bursledon and Hamble, in order to have consistency within our local community. The steps which all schools locally are taking, you will find in our previous letter.

Our Next Steps

Our senior leadership team are working to formulate a plan of how this opening may look and know that as parents, you will be faced with the difficult decision of whether to send your child to school or not. We are hopeful that the following detail may help you in deciding whether this very different school provision we are offering, would be suitable for your child moving forward. As many of us are parents ourselves, we fully appreciate and support any decision you make in the best interests of your child and your family. Further to this, we continue to take advice from the government policies that are widely available to the general public. Please find guidance for parents here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/reopening-schools-and-other-educational-settings-from-1-june>

We are now in a position to ask **all Year 6 parents** (whether you intend to use the provision or not) to complete the survey below, in order for us to anticipate numbers of pupils:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=dzoTprbgzkuo71UR_ZuzA830YrvQihPhNzva7G781tUOU54VU9GUjFUV1IYRzNQWDdLTTVTVThaNy4u

When **planning for the return of children to school**, we ask you to be mindful of the following:

- Children are likely to be in groups of no more than 9.
- The children within their group of 9 will only have interactions with those children in their own group and the adult or adults that may be working with them (this includes during break and lunchtimes).
- The adults working with a group will not necessarily be their own class teacher or learning support assistant.
- At this point in time, we do not have the clarity over whether the provision will be offered to your child on a full or part-time basis.
- Start and finish times for the school day are likely to be staggered, so that children come in as little contact with one another as possible.

Whilst we shall endeavour where possible to ensure that we adhere to social distancing guidance, it is not practical to assume that children will be kept 2 metres apart. We plan to teach them about social distancing using fun, age appropriate strategies but know that our experience in providing for the children in school over the past 7 weeks has presented its challenges with regard to social distancing.

For those parents who wish to take up the offer, and upon receipt of their survey, we will send further details about how we have planned to make the site as safe as possible from both our risk assessments and following the government and Public Health England guidance. In the meantime, if you do choose to keep your child at home, currently there will be no system for fining those families. We shall of course keep you updated as we receive further information moving forward.

As always, your priority will be keeping your families safe, and we share in this challenge during these difficult times. We support each family in the varying decisions they may have to make and look forward to supporting the children who will be returning to school very soon.

Best wishes,



Mrs Shirley Nicholas-Bond
Headteacher